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State of Illinois  
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# Guide To Career Choices

## Hospitality & Tourism

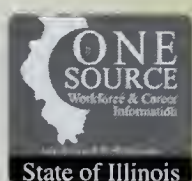
*A brief look at:*

- jobs
- education and training requirements
- wages
- outlook

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[www.ILWorkInfo.com](http://www.ILWorkInfo.com)

ENTRY : the mean (average) of the bottom third of wages in an occupation  
 MEDIAN : half of the workers in the occupation earn more than this wage; half earn less  
 EXPERIENCED : the mean of the top two-thirds of wages in an occupation

HS : High School diploma or equivalent  
 AD : Associate Degree of Arts/Science  
 community college, 2 years  
 BA/BS : Bachelor of Arts/Science degree  
 colleges/universities, 4 years

Career Opportunities	OUTLOOK		ANNUAL WAGES			Education & Training
	2014 Employment	Annual Openings	Entry	Median	Experienced	
Janitors & Cleaners	125,872	3,758	\$15,367	\$20,792	\$26,311	HS; most skills are learned on the job.
Combined Food Preparation & Serving Workers	36,171	4,365	\$14,176	\$14,833	\$17,419	Training is provided on the job. These positions often lead to advancement to more highly skilled positions.
Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	59,722	1,631	\$14,913	\$17,361	\$20,005	Training is provided on the job by experienced staff.
Food Preparation Workers	44,981	1,981	\$14,473	\$17,087	\$20,097	Training is acquired on the job. These positions often lead to advancement to more highly skilled positions.
Cooks, Fast Food	37,743	1,474	\$14,166	\$14,839	\$17,486	Most of the skills needed for these positions are acquired on the job.
Cooks, Restaurant	35,170	1,365	\$14,847	\$18,469	\$21,924	Experience as short-order, fast food or assistant cook is generally required.
Bartenders	25,199	1,143	\$14,156	\$15,147	\$19,784	HS is preferred but not required. No work experience is necessary, however, communication skills are necessary.
Recreation Workers	16,945	524	\$15,200	\$19,937	\$28,393	Requirements range from a HS diploma to graduate education for some administrative positions in large public systems. A major in parks and recreation or leisure studies is recommended.
Hosts and Hostesses, Restaurant	15,636	615	\$14,208	\$16,087	\$19,422	HS is preferred but not required.
Food Service Managers	14,426	352	\$25,784	\$38,067	\$50,628	Employers often recruit manager trainees from two- or four-year college programs in restaurant or food service management. Some managers are promoted from within the company.
Amusement and Recreation Attendants	7,113	2770	\$14,212	\$16,044	\$21,084	Training is provided on the job over a one month period. For those planning careers in recreation, an AD or BA in parks/recreation is highly recommended.

Occupational growth rates and job opening data are based on All-Industry projections through the year 2014.

Wage data cover full-time, part-time and seasonal employees but exclude temporary and contractual workers. Wages include commissions and cost-of-living allowances, but exclude overtime and tips.

# *Job Descriptions*

## *Food Service Managers*

Plan, direct, or coordinate activities of an organization or department that serves food and beverages.

## *Cooks, Fast Food*

Prepare and cook food in a fast food restaurant with a limited menu. Duties of the cooks are limited to preparation of a few basic items and normally involve operating large-volume single-purpose cooking equipment.

## *Cooks, Restaurant*

Prepare, season, and cook soups, meats, vegetables, desserts, or other foodstuffs in restaurants. May order supplies, keep records and accounts, price items on menu, or plan menu.

## *Food Preparation Workers*

Perform a variety of food preparation duties other than cooking, such as preparing cold foods and shellfish, slicing meat, and brewing coffee or tea.

## *Bartenders*

Mix and serve drinks to patrons, directly or through waitstaff.

## *Combined Food Preparation & Serving Workers*

Perform duties which combine both food preparation and food service.

## *Hosts and Hostesses, Restaurant*

Welcome patrons, seat them at tables or in lounge, and help ensure quality of facilities and service.

## *Janitors & Cleaners*

Keep buildings in clean and orderly condition. Perform heavy cleaning duties, such as cleaning floors, shampooing rugs, washing walls and glass, and removing rubbish.

## *Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners*

Perform any combination of light cleaning duties to maintain private households or commercial establishments, such as hotels, restaurants, and hospitals, in a clean and orderly manner.

## *Amusement and Recreation Attendants*

Perform variety of attending duties at amusement or recreation facility. May schedule use of recreation facilities and provide equipment to participants of sporting events.

## *Recreation Workers*

Conduct recreation activities with groups in public, private, or volunteer agencies or recreation facilities. Organize and promote activities, such as arts and crafts, sports, games, music, dramatics, social recreation, camping, and hobbies.



## *What is the job outlook?*

Employment in the hospitality and tourism industry is expected to grow about as fast as the average for all occupations. Job opportunities in the hospitality industry should be plentiful, especially in urban areas. The large number of young and part-time workers in this industry generate substantial replacement needs. Numerous job opportunities will be available for people with limited job skills, first-time job seekers, senior citizens and those seeking part-time work schedules. Also contributing to job growth will be the increase in population and dual-income families and the dining sophistication of consumers. In the hospitality and tourism industry, food preparation and serving workers, janitors and cleaners, food preparation workers, maids and housekeeping cleaners, and restaurant cooks will have the most annual average job openings.

## *Where can I find more information?*

The Illinois Department of Employment Security offers a wealth of information concerning the Illinois labor market. Visit **www.ILWorkInfo.com** to find out more about:

*Career Planning:* **Illinois Career Resource Network**  
1-877-513-1987  
des.icrn@illinois.gov

*Labor Market Information:* **LMI Source**  
1-866-ONE-SRCE (1-866-663-7723)  
des.lmi@illinois.gov

*Workforce Information:* **Workforce Info Center**  
des.workinfo@illinois.gov

For assistance with employment and training issues, contact your local Illinois Employment and Training Center. Call 1-888-367-4382 to find the location nearest you.



www.ides.state.il.us

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Career Guide Sources:

Illinois Department of Employment Security's "Occupational Projections" and "Occupational Employment Statistics Wage Data" and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics' "Occupational Outlook Handbook."